



Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office

Progress in Cambodia as of February 7, 2005

Current Status of Unaccounted-for Americans Lost in the Vietnam War

	<u>Vietnam</u>	<u>Laos</u>	<u>Cambodia</u>	<u>China</u>	<u>Total</u>
Original Missing	1,921	569	83	10	2,583
Repatriated and Identified	<u>518</u>	<u>192</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>741</u>
Remaining Missing	1,403	377	55	7	1,842

Of the remaining 55 Americans still unaccounted for in the country of Cambodia, three are in a “no further pursuit” status, meaning that as a result of rigorous investigation we have conclusive evidence the individual perished, but do not believe it possible to recover his remains.

Repatriating and Identifying Remains

- The Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command normally conducts one Joint Field Activity (JFA) per year in Cambodia.
- Each JFA involves 25-40 U.S. personnel plus their Cambodian counterparts. Together, they work on investigations and excavations throughout the country for a period of approximately 30-60 days.
- American remains are transferred to the Central Identification Lab in Hawaii for positive identification by forensic anthropologists.
- A limited JFA was conducted from June 15 – 29, 2004. An investigative team pursued cases in Siem Reap, Kracheh, Kampong Cham, and Svay Rieng Provinces.
- The 32nd JFA began January 15 and will conclude February 17, 2005. Recovery teams are excavating sites in Kampong Cham and Kampong Thom Provinces.

Resolving “Last Known Alive” Cases

- Of the original 19 individuals “Last Known Alive” in Cambodia (those who might have survived their loss incidents, but did not return), DoD has determined the fate of four, with 15 still unresolved.
- Of the four whose fate has been determined, the remains of three have been located and identified.
- U.S., Cambodia, and Vietnam technical experts met in Hanoi in November to discuss Last Known Alive cases along the Cambodia – Vietnam border.

Research and Investigations

- The Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs, Mr. Jerry D. Jennings, met with senior Cambodian officials in June 2004 to review the current status of efforts in the country.
- A U.S. investigator is now stationed in Phnom Penh full-time. He will pursue leads associated with the remaining 55 individuals missing in Cambodia.
- Witnesses have assisted in identifying recovery sites on Koh Tang, the island associated with the Mayaguez incident. Nine of the 18 Americans missing from that incident have been recovered and identified.
- U.S. researchers continue to review materials in the Cambodian National Archives. Private researchers studying wartime atrocities in Cambodia have also agreed to share relevant information they might uncover.
- Cambodian researchers concluded their first unilateral investigations on April 25, 2002, developing and pursuing leads to nine cases. They conducted another unilateral investigation round in 2003.